AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the title as follows:

SPINNING DEVICE ~~AND METHOD~~ HAVING TURBULENT COOLING BY BLOWING

Please insert the following headings and text at page 1, underneath the title:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a U.S. national phase application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT Application No. PCT/EP02/12592, filed November 11, 2002, which claims priority to German Patent Application No. 10200406.4, filed January 8, 2002.

INTRODUCTION

Please insert the following headings and text at page 5, line 22, between the second and third paragraphs:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a drawing showing a perspective illustration of an apparatus according to the invention in a schematic overall view.

Figure 2 is a drawing showing a first embodiment of the apparatus illustrated in Fig. 1, in a schematic section taken along plant II-II of Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is a drawing showing a schematic illustration of the apparatus of Fig. 1 for explaining geometrical parameters.

Figure 4 is a drawing showing a schematic illustration for explaining the processes in a continuously molded body directly after extrusion.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the paragraphs below as follows:

At page 13, the paragraph beginning at line 11:

After having passed through the air gap 6, the continuously molded bodies 5 immerse as a substantially planar curtain into a precipitation bath 9 consisting of a precipitant, such as water.

In the precipitation bath 9, there is a deflector 10 by which the planar curtain 8 is deflected from the extrusion direction into the direction of the precipitation bath surface as a curtain ~~11~~ and is guided to a bundling means 12 in this process. The planar curtain is combined or assembled by the bundling means 12 into a bundle of filaments 13. The bundling means 12 is arranged outside the precipitation bath 9.

At page 14, the paragraph beginning at line 1:

In the area of the air gap 6 there is disposed a blowing means 14 from which a cooling gas stream 15 exits having ~~an axis~~ a direction 16 extending in a direction transverse to the direction of passage 7, or which comprises at least one main flow component in said direction. In the embodiment of Fig. 1 the cooling gas stream 15 is substantially planar.

At page 15, insert the following paragraph at line 13, between the first and second full paragraphs:

In one embodiment, the width of the cooling stream at the exit is not more than 2 mm; in another embodiment the width of the cooling stream at the exit is not more than 1 mm. In one embodiment, a boundary area facing the extrusion orifices and located between the cooling area and the first shielding zone extends substantially in parallel with a plane in which the extrusion orifices are positioned on average.

At page 15, the paragraph beginning at line 13:

The thickness E of the curtain of continuously molded bodies 5, which is to be penetrated by the cooling gas stream, measured in a direction transverse to the direction of passage 7, is less than 40 mm in the embodiment of Fig. 1. Said thickness is substantially determined by a sufficient cooling effect being produced by the cooling gas stream in the cooling area ~~16~~ 19 in the row 22 of the continuously molded bodies 5 that is the last one in gas flow direction 16. Depending on the temperature and velocity of the cooling gas stream and on the temperature and velocity of the extrusion process in the area of the extrusion orifices 4, thicknesses E of less than 30 mm or less than 25 mm are also possible.

At page 16, the paragraph beginning at line 11:

Fig. 2 shows an embodiment in which the direction 16 of the cooling gas stream 15 is inclined by an angle ß relative to the ~~vertical~~ horizontal 23 towards the direction of inclination 7. The cooling gas stream 15 thereby has a velocity component which is oriented into the direction of passage 7.

At Page 18, the paragraph beginning at line 1:

According to the invention it is intended that the first shielding or protection zone 20 extends up to an area 25 in which the expansion of the continuously molded body 5 is either small or does not exist any more. As shown in Fig. 4, the area 25 in the direction of passage 7 is positioned behind the largest diameter of the expansion zone. Preferably, cooling area 19 and expansion zone ~~25~~ 24 do not overlap, but directly follow one another.